

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 08/18/2007.

Claims 1-7, 9-16, and 19 are pending.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 and 9-16 as being anticipated by Hauser (US Pat. 6,155,251), and claim 16 as being obvious over Hauser in view of Dickinson et al.

Claim 19 is indicated as rejected in the Office Action Summary, although it is not listed in either grounds for rejection.

Hauser (US Pat 6,155,251) is the Opposite of the Claimed Invention

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration on the basis that Hauser merely discloses a conventional valve with an inner *dispensing* position and an outer *closed or priming* position. The present invention involves the opposite valve design: “. . . an inner closed or priming position and an outer dispensing position. . . .”

The present invention provides an adaptor with an actuation mechanism that, despite having a reverse operating metering valve, allows dispensing of doses by a user as “normal” – i.e., a dose still is emitted when the user depresses or squeezes the unit even though the valve itself has reversed operation. Referring to claim 1 (with underlining added):

Claim 1. An adaptor for use with a container equipped with a dispensing valve that comprises a valve stem movable between an inner closed or priming position and an outer dispensing position, for dispensing doses of pressurized aerosol formulation, the adaptor being adapted to receive the container and comprising an actuation mechanism, said actuation mechanism being arranged such that the user will operate the mechanism by applying a depressive or squeezing force and the dose will be dispensed upon said depressive or squeezing force and said actuation mechanism being arranged such that upon release of the mechanism by the user, the valve stem of the dispensing valve will be moved automatically into its closed or priming position.

Accordingly, Hauser, alone or in view Dickenson, does not anticipate or render obvious the present claims. Reconsideration and favorable action are therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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